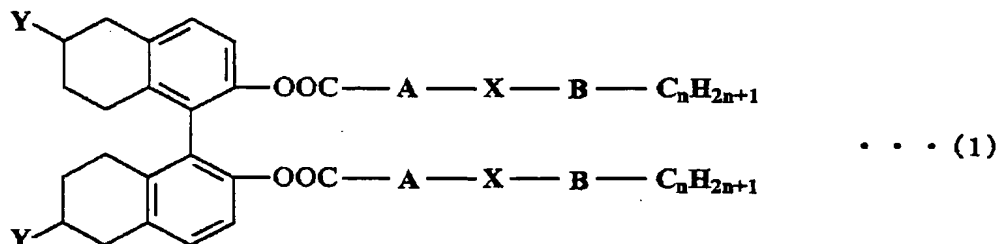


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

An optically active compound containing
 5,5',6,6',7,7',8,8'-octahydro-1,1'-bi-2-naphthol of the
 5 general formula (1) as an asymmetric source,



wherein n is an integer of 1 to 10, Y is a hydrogen atom,
 an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a phenyl group,
 a phenyl group substituted with an alkyl group having 1 to
 10 5 carbon atoms or a phenyl group substituted with an alkoxy
 group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, X is a single bond (-),
 -OOC- or -OCH₂-, and each of A and B is a substituent formed
 by specifically combining rings selected from cyclohexane,
 benzene, pyrimidine, naphthalene, dioxane, etc., including
 15 mutual bonding forms of rings so that the substituent has
 1 to 4 rings, the optically active compound
 characteristically having a large helical twisting power
 (HTP) of 50 or more and being useful as a chiral dopant,
 the chiral dopant being capable of adjusting a helical pitch
 20 when only added in a small amount, so that the deterioration
 of performances of a base liquid crystal can be prevented.